

LLWCHWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1943

BY

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M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.





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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

The Public Health Staff consists of:

Medical Officer of Health.

Four Medical Officers to the Infant Welfare
Centres.

Three Public Vaccinators.

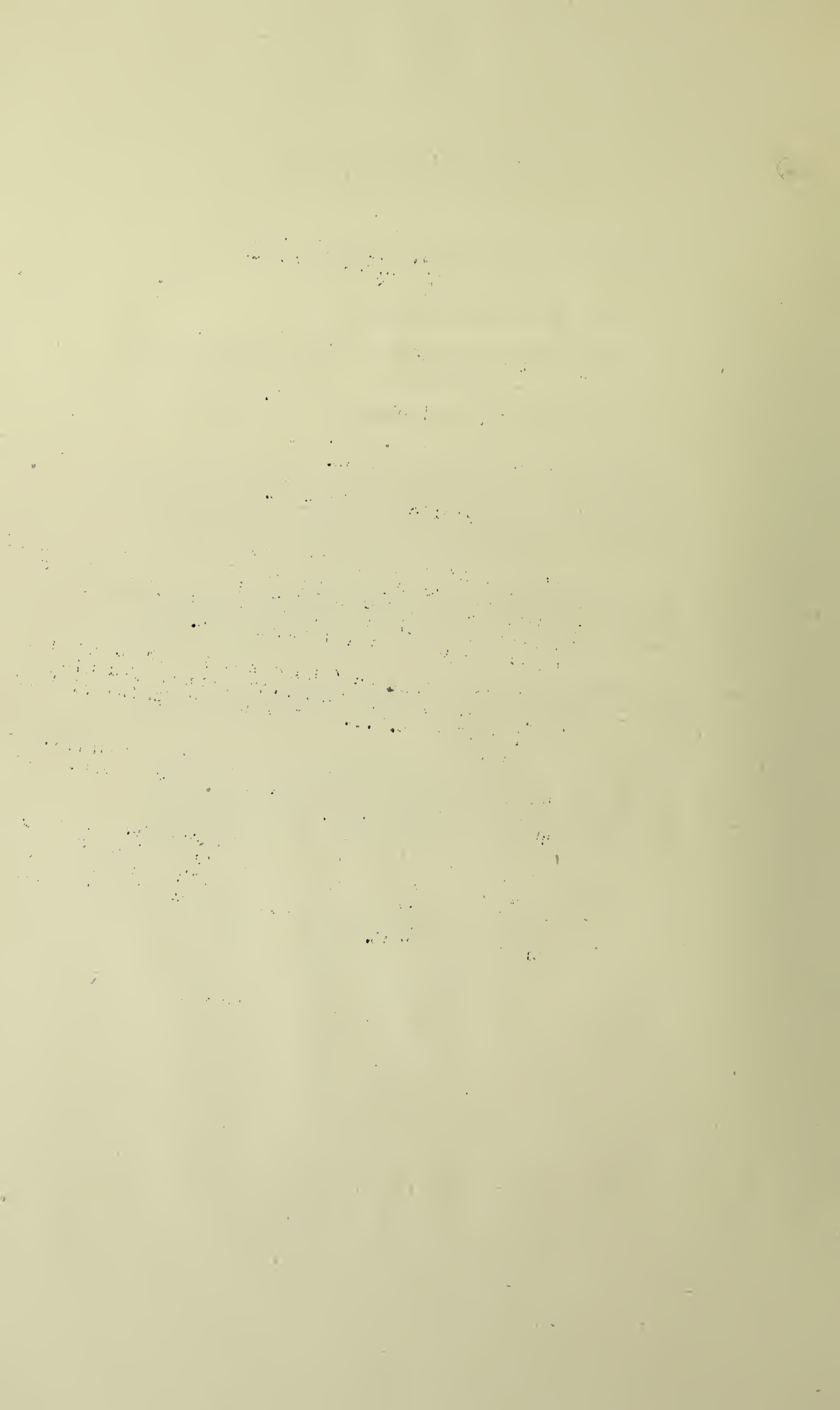
Senior Sanitary Inspector and Additional Sanitary
Inspector, are employed full time. They both hold
certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspectors and also certificates as
Inspectors of Meat and other Food.

Two Health Visitors (whole-time) both of whom are
State Registered Nurses with General Training
Certificates, C.M.B. Diplomas and Health Visitors'
Certificates.

The Matron of the Garngoch Isolation Hospital is a
State Registered Nurse with a General and Fever
Training Certificate.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary
Inspectors are half paid locally and half paid
out of the County funds; Health Visitors are
paid half locally and half out of the Ministry
of Health Grant.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

LLWCHWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report
for the Llwchwr Urban District Council for the year 1943.

(a) Area: The District is divided into four Parishes,
namely, Llandilo-Talybont, Loughor, Gowerton and Llangyfelach.
The acreage of each Parish is as follows:-

Llandilo-Talybont	...	7,556 acres.
Loughor	...	1,247 acres.
Gowerton	...	2,538 acres.
Llangyfelach	...	6,474 acres.

Total Acreage	17,815 acres.
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The number of inhabited houses at the end
of the year was 6,456 and the rateable value of the district
£96,156 which represents a sum of 3359 as the yield of a
penny rate.

(b) Births: The number of live births registered
for the district in 1943 was 440, of whom 248 were males
and 192 females, representing a birth rate of 18.1 per
1,000 of the population. This rate compares favourably
with that recorded for England and Wales, which is given
as 16.5 per 1,000 of the population. In 1942 the net
total births amounted to 483 with a birth rate of 19.5
per 1,000 of the population; thus this year there is
a decrease of 43 births or 1.4 below the rate recorded
for the preceding year.

5 Male illegitimate children were registered,
and 5 females, a proportion of 22.7 per 1,000 registered
live births.

The Stillbirths numbered 13, that is, 12 males
and 1 female, which is equivalent to a rate of 28.6 per
1,000 total (live and still) births.

(c) Deaths: The net total deaths after allowing for inward
and outward transfers amounted to 279, of which 155 were males
and 124 females. This gives a death rate of 11.5 per 1,000
of the population as compared with 288 deaths and a death rate
of 11.6 per 1,000 of the population in 1942. The death rate
for England and Wales in 1943 was 12.1 per 1,000 of the
population.

(d) Infant Mortality: There were 18 deaths under 1 year
during the year, giving an Infantile Mortality rate of 41
per 1,000 live births. The Infantile Mortality rate for
England and Wales is given as 49 per 1,000 live births.

(e) Maternal Mortality: 3 Maternal deaths occurred during the year 1943; one death from Puerperal Sepsis and 2 from other maternal causes, giving an incidence rate of 6.6 per thousand live and stillbirths.

(f) Diarrhoea and Enteritis: 3 deaths occurred from diarrhoea and enteritis under the age of two years.

The rates and deaths from Infectious Diseases in 1943 are as follows:-

		<u>England and Wales</u>	
Smallpox	- 0 or 0.00 per 1000 population	0.00 per 1000 population.	
Scarlet Fever	- 0 or 0.00 " "	0.00 " "	
Whooping Cough	- 0 or 0.00 " "	0.03 " "	
Diphtheria	- 0 or 0.00 " "	0.03 " "	
Measles	- 0 or 0.00 " "	0.02 " "	
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	- 0 or 0.00 " "	0.00 " "	
Influenza	- 3 or 0.11 " "	0.37 " "	
Cerebrospinal Fever	- 2 or 0.08 " "	Not available.	

14 deaths were due to all forms of Pneumonia, 25 due to Bronchitis, 3 due to Influenza, and 6 from other forms of Respiratory Diseases, which gives a total of 48 deaths from all forms of respiratory diseases apart from Tuberculosis, giving a death rate of 1.55 per 1,000 of the population.

18 deaths were registered from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, which is equivalent to a rate of 0.73 per 1,000 of the population.

There were 7 deaths registered from Violence apart from Suicide, and 2 Suicidal.

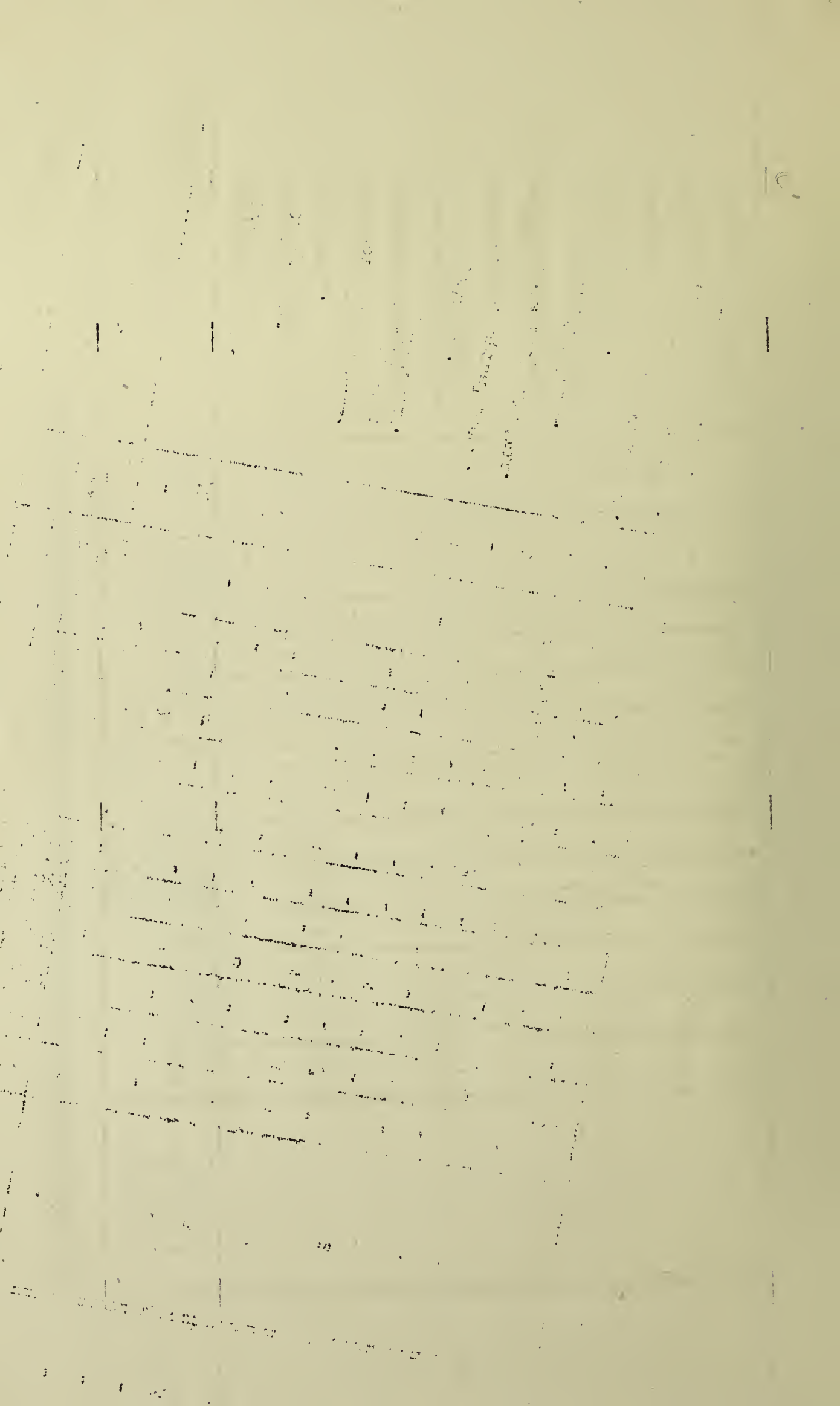
Cancer and other forms of malignant disease caused 37 deaths which is equal to a rate of 1.51 per 1,000 of the population.

Diphtheria Immunisation. The number of children completely immunised against diphtheria during the year 1943 was as follows:-

185 Pre-school children.
23 School children.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that diphtheria immunisation nearly gives 100% protection and that in my opinion a parent or guardian who knowingly deprives a child of this protection is guilty, to say the least, of gross negligence and that is using a mild term. There is no reason why anyone in this area can state that they are unaware of the facilities available to them for immunisation. Most of the children have been immunised personally by me.

Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria Anti-toxin. Supplies of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria anti-toxin are stored at the Police Stations in the district ready for use by any of the General Practitioners



TUBERCULOSIS.

25 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 18 of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during 1943. The total number of deaths registered from all forms of Tuberculosis numbered 18.

The existing arrangement between the Medical Officers of the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Service, and the General Practitioners of the district appears efficient and satisfactory. All new cases are, as a rule, referred to the Tuberculosis Physician for confirmation of diagnosis, for diagnosis and treatment, and for continued observation of progress.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease are given in the following table:

Tuberculosis.
New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 -	1	-	2	3	-	-	-	-
15 -	6	4	4	1	1	3	-	-
25 -	2	3	-	-	4	3	-	-
35 -	4	3	1	1	2	2	-	-
45 -	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Totals:	15	10	9	9	10	8	-	-

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATION, 1925.

No action was taken under this Regulation during the year 1943, relating to Tubercular employees in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

No action was taken under this section during the year 1943.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH

SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations are made by Dr. Sladden at the "Beck" Laboratory, Swansea. All Medical Practitioners within the district can have any samples examined free of cost, the cost being borne by the Council.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For Infectious Cases. A Motor Ambulance is provided for the removal of Infectious Cases to the Isolation Hospital.

(b) For Non-Infectious, Accident Cases and Maternity Cases. The various works in the district provide ambulances for the removal of these cases to the Gorseinon or Swansea Hospital, according to which hospital the patient is a subscriber. The service is quite adequate under normal conditions.

Nursing in the Home.

(a) General: For ordinary sickness or accident, the service of the Queen Victoria Memorial Association Nurses are available in each parish of the district. These nurses are supported by the various works in the district.

(b) Infectious Diseases: In case of severe epidemics such as Measles or Influenza, the Committees of the various Welfares in the district, under the direction of the Health Visitors, are available for the home nursing.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There are six Infant Welfare Centres in the District:

Gorseinon	...	held on alternate Tuesdays.
Loughor	...	" " " Tuesdays.
Grovesend	...	" " " Tuesdays.
Penllergaer	...	" " " Tuesdays.
Gowerton	...	" " " Wednesdays.
Pontardulais...	"	" " Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The attendances at the Clinics during 1943 are as follows:

Gorseinon	...	No. on Register	...	255	Infants.
		Average Attendance	...	88	"
Loughor	...	No. on Register	...	190	"
		Average Attendance	...	72	"
Grovesend	...	No. on Register	...	78	"
		Average Attendance	...	30	"
Penllergaer	...	No. on Register	...	60	"
		Average Attendance	...	18	"
Gowerton	...	No. on Register	...	214	"
		Average Attendance	...	108	"
Pontardulais	...	No. on Register	...	294	"
		Average Attendance	...	98	"

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Gorseinon	...	Held the Third Thursday of each month.
Pontardulais	...	Held the First Thursday of each month.

Ante-Natal Clinics. Ante-Natal Clinics are held monthly at Gorseinon and Pontardulais. The Midwives attend these clinics with their patients and the clinics are integrated with the County Ante-Natal Clinic at Penrhiwtyn.

School Clinics. The School Clinics in the district are held at Pontardulais and Gowerton Council Schools, and at the Institute, Lime Street, Gorseinon. The children are treated periodically by the Education Authorities' Medical Officers.

Tuberculosis Clinics. The treatment of Tuberculosis is in the care of the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association and patients suffering from this disease attend the Dispensary at 10, Grove Place, Swansea, which is open daily (except Fridays) from 9.30 to 12 a.m.

Sanatorium accommodation for the district is provided at the various Sanatoria in Wales, there being no local Sanatorium.

Garngoch Isolation Hospital: All infectious cases in the district are treated at the Garngoch Isolation Hospital, where the facilities provided lend themselves to the adequate nursing of the various cases which are admitted.

During the year, the number of cases admitted comprised:
64 cases of Scarlet Fever; 2 cases of diphtheria; 2 cases of Erysipelas; 2 Cerebrospinal Fever; 3 Puerperal Pyrexia, and 1 Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Vaccination: There are certain risks if the vaccination law is not complied with. It is advisable, especially during wartime, that vaccination should be carried out.

Hospitals. The Hospitals where treatment is available for the inhabitants of the district are as tabulated below:

Hospital.	Situation.	Purpose.	Beds.
Gorseinon General Hospital.	Gorseinon.	General & Maternity.	Medical & Surgical, 60 beds. Children 10. Maternity 10 beds. Ear, Nose and Throat.
Swansea General & Eye Hospital.	Swansea.	General.	Medical & Surgical, Children, Maternity, Ear, Nose and Throat, Venereal Diseases.
Llanelli & Dist. General Hospital.	Llanelli.	General.	-do-
West Glamorgan Hospital.	Neath.	General & Maternity.	
	Bridgend.	Mental.	
	Hensol Castle.	Mental.	
Garngoch.	Garngoch Common.	Isolation.	Infectious diseases. 28 beds, 4 cots.

Midwifery and Maternity Service: Most Maternity cases are attended at home by Midwives, while others make use of the Maternity Hospital, Gorseinon, Local Practitioners being called in if required. Infective cases are treated at the Garngoch Isolation Hospital.

Complicated pregnancies and Obstetrical emergencies are admitted to the West Glamorgan Hospital at Neath. If there is any danger due to the journey to Penrhiwtyn, complicated maternity cases can be sent to the Gorseinon Maternity Hospital.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers.

Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.

Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children is provided for by the respective Public Assistance Authorities at Pontardawe and Penmaen.

Health Visitors.

During the year, the Health Visitors paid:

1.	To Expectant Mothers	First Visits.	32
		Total Visits.	60
2.	To children under 1 year of age	First Visits.	396
		Total Visits.	1449
3.	To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.	Total Visits.	2357

Infant Life Protection. Children and Young Persons Act, 1932.

Any cases coming under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, are reported by the Health Visitors.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Orthopaedic cases are sent to the Glamorgan County Clinics at Pontardawe and Neath, which are the nearest for the district.

Wartime Nursery.

A Wartime Nursery was opened at Gorsemon on the 16th August, 1943. This Nursery should fulfil the need of this district. It is expected that the children who are attending will develop better than they normally would, due to getting a scientifically balanced diet, proper care, and medical attention.

The staff in charge of the Nursery consists of a warden, cook/cleaner, and helper. The warden appointed is a certificated teacher, and not a nurse, the reason for this being, that the children are not invalids; and it is advisable to have a trained educationalist over them.

The Nursery is periodically visited by the Health Visitors, and supervised by myself.

I wish to thank the Council Engineer, Mr. F. T. James; H.M. Inspectors of Schools, and the officials of the Welsh Board of Health for their co-operation.

Housing.

Houses erected by the Local Authority	-	Nil.
Houses erected by Private Enterprise	-	Nil.

Food.

The following foods were condemned by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:

Tinned Meats.	142	tins.	(various sizes)
Tinned Milk.	127	tins.	
Bacon.	30	lbs.	
Cheese.	257 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs.	
Syrup.	8	tins.	
Raw Meat.	425	lbs.	
Tinned Fish.	66	tins.	
Tinned Soup.	15	tins.	
Tinned Beans.	27	tins.	
Tinned Fruits.	78	tins.	
Custard Powder.	98	lbs.	
Semolina Powder.	157	lbs.	
Batter Flour.	90	lbs.	
Bun Flour.	42	lbs.	
Potatoes.	140	lbs.	
Self Raising Flour.	3	lbs.	
Ham.	63	lbs.	
Butter.	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	lbs.	
Margarine.	3	lbs.	
Rice.	169	lbs.	
Lentils.	311	lbs.	
Macaroni.	85	lbs.	
Haricots Beans.	550	lbs.	
Sausage Meal.	194	lbs.	
Sausages.	55	lbs.	
Oranges.	40	lbs.	
Dried Fruits.	5	lbs.	
Sugar.	2	lbs.	

27 tins and jars of Meat Pastes, Vegetables, Pickles, Jams, etc.

The above information was supplied by the Council's Sanitary Inspector.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, AND MILK
AND CREAM REGULATION.

The duties of inspection under the above acts are entrusted to the Officers of the County Police, of, and above the rank of Sergeant.

Through the kindness of the Superintendent, I am able to give the following particulars of samples taken and sent to the Public Analyst to be analysed under the Food and Drugs Act, etc., in the Llwchwr Urban District during the year 1943.

New Milk	28
Margarine	4
Lard	1
Egg Substitute	2
Custard Powder	1
Chocolate Cake Mixture	1
Castor Oil	1
Butter	3
Malt Vinegar	2
Coffee	1
Baking Powder	1
Self Raising Flour	1
Rice Custard Powder	1
Pancake Mixture	1
Chocolate Pudding Mixture	1
Semolina	1
Creamola Mixture	1
Sponge Mixture	1
Epsom Salts	1

53

The samples were collected in Gorseinon, Loughor, Penllergaer, Llangyfelach, Gowerton and Pontardulais. Of the samples analysed, 52 were found to be genuine, and one case of deficiency in milk fat was on prosecution dismissed.

Bacteriological samples of milk were taken on eight occasions, and found to be:-

Satisfactory	5
Unsatisfactory	2
Reaction time rather less than prescribed period	1

8

I wish to acknowledge the co-operation which I have received from the Council, the Staff of my own department, the Heads of the other departments of the Council, Dr. A. R. Culley, County Medical Officer of Health; and Dr. T. W. Wade, Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) G. E. DONOVAN.

GORSEINON,

SEPTEMBER, 1944.

A P P E N D I X

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1. General Statistics.

Area of District	-	17, 815 acres.
No. of inhabited houses at the end of the year	-	6,456
Rateable Value of District	-	£96, 156
Sum represented by 1d. rate	-	£359

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year 1943.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Legitimate Live Births	430	243	187	Birth rate per 1000 estimated population mid 1943: 18.1
Illegitimate	10	5	5	
Legitimate Stillbirths	11	10	1	
Illegitimate	2	2		Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births: 28.5
Deaths	279	155	124	
				Death rate per 1000 estimated average population: 11.5

Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.

DEATHS:

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis:	1	}	6.6
Deaths from other Puerperal causes:	2		

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

All infants per 1000 live births	18
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births:	17
Illegitimate infants per 1000	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	37
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Mil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Mil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	3
